

Sept., 1922.



L'UMILE PIANTA

Officials of the Association.

Hon. Secretary and Treasurer:

MISS L. GRAY, 3, St. David's Avenue, Bexhill, Sussex.

Hon. Assistant Secretaries—

MRS. GOULD, 2, Holland Villas Road, Kensington, W.
MISS F. W. YOUNG, 102, Cranbrook Road, Ilford, Essex.

Hon. Editor—

MISS J. R. SMITH, 9, Darnaway Street, Edinburgh.

Members of S.E.C.

1892-93-94. MISS RANKIN, Westfield Corner, Hatch End, Pinner.
1895-96. MISS FLEWKER, 13, Bryanston Street, W.1.
1897. MISS MORONY, 6, Warwick Mansions, Cromwell Crescent, S.W.5.
1898. MISS ALLEN, 1, Valentia Road, Hoylake, Cheshire.
1899. MISS FAUNCE, 3, Queen's Gardens, Hyde Park, W.2.
1900. MISS MENCE, 33, Battenhall Road, Worcester.
1901. MISS DEVONSHIRE, Fairfield, Ambleside.
1902. MISS FOUNTAIN, Levana, Wimbledon Park, S.W.19.
1903. MISS GOODE, Halesowen, Burgess Hill, Sussex.
1904. MISS FRANCIS, Myrtle Hill, Caermarthen, S.Wales.
1905. MISS WISEMAN, 2, Elsham Road, Kensington, W.14.
1906. MRS. BRITTLEBANK, Yew Tree House, Northenden, Cheshire.
1907. MISS MACFARLANE, I.W.F. Club, 9, Grafton Street, Piccadilly.
1908. MISS HAGGIE, 7, Ormonde Terrace, Primrose Hill, N.W.8.
1909. MISS FELLOWES, 71, Primrose Mansions, Battersea Park, S.W.11.
1910. No member elected.
1911. MISS LOWE, Combs Rectory, Stowmarket, Suffolk.
1912. MISS CURRY, St. Hilda's P.N.E.U. School, Bushey.
1913. MISS LAMBERT, Fairfield House, Newland, Lincoln.
1914. MISS CLAXTON, 22, Powis Square, W.11.
1915. MISS JAMESON, Parkside, Elm Road, Sidcup, Kent.
1916. MISS BOXSHALL, 77, Mertonhall Road, Wimbledon, S.W.19.
1917. MISS BUTLER, Candahar, Yorke Road, Reigate.
1918. MISS DODDS, Newholme, Norton-on-Tees, Co. Durham.
1919. MISS CHOLMONDELEY, Redlynch House, Redlynch, Salisbury.
1920. MISS PEACEY, West Grange, Stroud, Glos.
1921. MISS PLUMPTRE, Delbridge House, Wingham, nr. Canterbury.

CHANGES OF ADDRESS.

1897. ALLEN, E. C., Sea View, Crowborough, Sussex (rooms).
 1901. HIRTZEL, S., (MRS. O. W. ALBRECHTSEN) Poste Restante, Nairobi, Kenya Colony.
 1902. HEATH, C. N., c/o MRS. LESCHALLAS, Glenfinart, Ardentinny, by Greenock (post).
 1903. THOMSON, D. L. (MRS. ESSLEMONT), 181, Maida Vale, W.9.
 1904. WILKINSON, MAUD, Bowness, Windermere (non-resident).
 1906. GAYFORD, E. (MRS. FOULGER), 14, Delcott Close, Welwyn Garden City, Herts.
 MONRO, C. C., 29a, Longridge Road, Earl's Court, S.W.5.; U.M.C.A. Magila, Mheza, Tanganyika Territory.
 1907. HENDERSON, C., c/o MRS. BURKE, Thessaly Lodge, Stratten, Cirencester (post).
 1908. NEVILL-BENNETT, P. C., c/o MRS. CRELLIN, Landour Marine Drive, Rhos-on-Sea, N. Wales (post).
 NORRIS, D., c/o MRS. LIGHTBODY, 122, East Street, South Molton, Devon (Class).
 1909. MELLIS-SMITH, J. H. (MRS. TASKER), Lanmoor, Colinton, Edinburgh.
 1910. KINNEAR, P. C., c/o MISS CORNWALL, 27, Cromwell Road, South Kensington (non-resident).
 1912. COUCHMAN, J. E., c/o MISS SMYTH, Gorse Hill, Shortheath, Farnham (post).
 HENDERSON, A., c/o MRS. LAWIN, Pilfolds, Horsham, Sussex (post).
 1912. MALDEN, T., c/o MRS. ALEXINGTON, The Rectory, Baldock, Herts (non-resident).
 MOFFATT, B. S., c/o MRS. CROMBIE, Goval, Dyce, Aberdeenshire (non-resident).
 OTHHER, F. E., c/o Mrs. HOTHAM, Milne Graden, Coldstream, Berwickshire (post.).
 1913. ADCOCK, F. M., c/o DR. LAMPORT, 14, Castle Park, Lancaster; Elmhurst, Ashton Road, (Lancaster rooms).
 JAMES, K. M., Dunrothes, Zwartruggens, Transvaal, South Africa.
 LOWE, R., South View, Market Lavington, near Devizes (rooms).
 1914. ADAM, M., c/o MRS. SALKELD, Holme Hill, Dalston, Cumberland (post.).
 BRUCE-Low, E., c/o MRS. CLAY, 18 Kensington Park Gardens, W.11.

SOMERVILLE, E. M., c/o Mrs. GRENFELL, 43, Jacquin-gasse, Vienna, Austria.
 1915. FLETCHER, V. K., c/o MRS. APPLETON, Brailey Ranch, Penticton, British Columbia.
 HUSSEY, A., c/o LADY REDESDALE, Asthall Manor, Burford, Oxon. (post.).
 VINCE, H., Hampton School, Malvern, Jamaica (post.).
 WILSON, MAY, c/o MRS. PRENTICE, Concepcion, Chile (post.).
 1916. BRYSON, J., (MRS. JAMES WADDELL), 74, Queen Street, Castle Douglas, N.B.
 ORR, C. M., c/o MRS. CADMAN, Oglethorpe House, Richmond, Yorks. (post.).
 PANTER, M. L., c/o MAJOR R. BENNETT, D.S.O., 92nd Batt., R.F.A., Ismailia, Egypt (post.).
 1917. ADRAIN, MARGARET, c/o MRS. SCOTT, Bank Hall Lodge, Chapel-en-le-Frith, Derbyshire (post.).
 BRUCE-Low, J., c/o LADY CRAIG, 87, Harley St., London; and Salora, East Priston, Sussex (post.).
 1917. COOMBES, G. A., c/o MRS. ILLINGWORTH, Hanlith Hall, Bell Busk, Yorks. (post.).
 MENZIES, M., c/o MISS BODY, Hamilton House, Tunbridge Wells (post.).
 MOIR, ELSIE, c/o MRS. DUFF, Heydon Hall, Aylsham (post.).
 1918. GILLESPIE, H., Craigmount, Edinburgh (non-resident).
 DE PUTRON, U. M., Kingsthorpe Vicarage, Northampton (sole).
 1919. BROWNLIE, M. D., c/o MRS. BEALE, 18, Kinsborough Gardens, Glasgow, W. (non-resident).
 JESPER, D., c/o MRS. COGHILL, Fern Hill, Market Drayton, Salop (post.).
 SMITH, U. B. L., c/o MRS. PEACH, Firbeck Hall, Rotherham, Yorks. (post.).
 1919. WAKEFIELD, M., Aston-Somerville Hall, Broadway, Glos. (post.).
 1920. JOHNSON, M. E., c/o MRS. BOOT, Lenton House, Lenton, nr. Nottingham (post.).
 1921. HAMILTON-BRUCE, M., c/o MRS. GUTH, Mill Lane, Norton, Stockton-on-Tees (non-resident).
 DICKSON, J. A., c/o MRS. WALKER, Campbellfield, Irvine, Ayrshire (post.).
 WOOD, S., Kent Lodge, 11, Kew Gardens Road, Kew, Surrey.

BIRTH.

FOULGER.—On July 21st, at 14, Delcott Close, Welwyn Garden City, to Edith (née Gayford) the wife of P. Foulger, Esq., a daughter (Mary).

MARRIAGES.

COLWELL—BROWN. On August 28th, at St. Mary's Church, Acklam, by the Rev. A. S. Wetherall, M.A., Eric Richard Colwell of Nigeria, to Nora Brown of Ashleigh, Linthorpe, Middlesborough.

WADDELL—BRYSON. On Dec. 21st, 1921, at Trinity Church, Castle Douglas, Capt. James Waddell, R.A.Y.C., to Jenny Bryson.

NOTICES.

Will students kindly remember that the next number of L'UMILE PIANTA contains the address list, and will they make an especial effort to send a postcard with their name, home and post address correct for January, 1923, and the year when the sender left college, to Miss F. W. Young, 102, Cranbrook Road, Ilford, Essex.

The next number of L'UMILE PIANTA will appear on January 15th. All communications should be written on *one* side of the paper only, and must reach the Editor, 9, Darnaway Street, Edinburgh, by December 15th.

The H.O.E.A. blazer can be obtained from

“Our Boys” Clothing Company,
95, Wigmore Street, London, W.1.

The price is now 30/- made to measure, as the navy blue flannel is much better quality than the flannel of the blazer shown during the Conference.

“Self-measurement” forms can be obtained on application from “Our Boys” Clothing Company. All the students who have them seem very much pleased with them.

P.U.S. blazers may be obtained from the same firm. Owing to the very small demand, the price is 28/6. The Pocket is hand-embroidered. If three dozen are ordered the badge on pocket can be done by machinery which would make the blazer much cheaper.

LOST.

A Book “Body and Mind,” by William McDougall, which went round in Miss Claxton’s reading circle, and belongs to Mrs. McIntosh, 13, Spottiswoode Road, Edinburgh, who would be glad to have it as soon as possible.

THE LEISURE CLUB, 16, GORDON SQUARE.

Nearest District and Metropolitan Station, Euston Square.
Nearest Tube (Charing Cross and Hampstead), Goodge Street.
Nearest Tube (Central London), British Museum.
Nearest Bus Routes—Southampton Row, Euston Road, or Tottenham Court Road routes.

The Club is open from 10-30 a.m. to 10 p.m. including Sundays.

Meals may be obtained at the following hours:—

Luncheon, 12-45—2-0. 1s. 6d. with coffee. Tea, 4—6.
Dinner 7 to 7-30, at 2s. 6d. Coffee extra.

We are not eligible as residential members unless we join as individuals, when the subscription is one guinea.

There is a Reading Room, Drawing Room and Smoking Room.

When visiting the club please always sign your name in the book on the slab outside the Drawing Room, adding the letters, O.A.S.A. or H.O.E.T. & O.S.A.

STUDENTS' MEETINGS.

A Meeting of the Association was held at The Leisure Club, 16, Gordon Square, on Saturday, June 3rd. Present: in the Chair, Miss Wiseman; the Misses Bruce-Low, Fountain, Francis, Franklin, Gladding, Macfarlane, Morony and Purves.

We were glad to find so many present considering it was Whit-Saturday and specially glad to see Miss Macfarlane again after her recent severe illness. Miss Fountain brought her photo of the recent Students' Conference. A strong feeling of those present supported by other students at the Conference was to hold some meetings for folk dancing in the autumn. This was largely the outcome of the enthusiasm provoked by the treat the Present Students gave us at the Conference, of several informal dancing displays. It was decided that if we are allowed the use of the Club room for dancing, that the Autumn meetings should begin with folk dancing, 3—4 p.m., and leave tea and the after tea interval for general discussion. Miss Gladding, Miss McLeod and others have promised help. Miss Gladding, 31, Holland Road, W.14, would be very pleased to hear from students not present at either the Conference or yesterday's meeting, if they are interested and would come prepared to help.

We are hoping for a very large gathering in July and hope members who were engaged in other ways will be free. Africa and the East claimed several regular attendants and the discussion of missionary work called to mind the tremendous reception given to Miss Clara Monro at the Central Hall, Westminster, when she addressed a vast audience on her work among African women.

LETTERS.

September 26th.

Dear Old Students,

It seems such a short time since the Conference and the last 'Pianta Letter,' that there is very little to say, except that we were all sorry to find ourselves at the end of last term and that those of us who are going back to 'Scale How' for the last time, as students, are feeling very sad that our two years are so nearly finished.

The day on which Lady Baden Powell came to inspect the 2nd Ambleside Company of Girl Guides, as a Cadet Corps, and present the colours, was serenely fine and the following Saturday all Guides attended the Rally at Appleby, being conveyed thence in two large motor chara-bancs.

Towards the end of the term the 1st Ambleside Company of Guides were invited up to 'Scale How' for tea and games in the garden.

On the day of the Children's Party it poured with rain unfortunately, so that games had to be organised indoors instead of the usual sports and tea in the garden.

'Wasp,' a terrier belonging to one of the students, who was one of our community last term, will be missed by everyone.

I am sure we shall all return to 'Scale How' full of new energy to meet the busy time that is before us, after the long holidays, during which many of us have had the new experience of 'holiday posts.'

Yours sincerely,

THE PRESENT STUDENTS.

50, Porchester Terrace,
Hyde Park, W.2,
27th July, 1922.

Dear Editor,

Students who have difficulty in getting inexpensive accommodation in London may find the following addresses useful.

My friend, Miss Baverstock, 61, Great Ormond Street, W.3.1, takes paying guests and occasionally has a vacancy for a week end or a night. She charges 5s. 6d. for bed and breakfast and 2s. 6d. for dinner. Friends of her boarders sometimes stay at Mrs. Dolaman, 7, Great Ormond Street, and find these lodgings clean and comfortable. The charge for bed and breakfast is 6s., or a little cheaper if one mentions Miss Baverstock's name, which she kindly says she would be glad for students to do. Great Ormond Street is not far from the Leisure Club.

Yours,

M. E. FRANKLIN.

45, Ferndale Road,
Banstead,

Surrey.

October 6th, 1922.

Dear Editor,

The P.U.S.A. Committee has asked me to make a special appeal through your columns, for more support from ex-students.

If every student would interest her pupils in the P.U.S.A., telling them about its work and aims—and also arrange for her pupils over the age of seventeen to join, she would greatly help us. Children who are not old enough to become full members, may on leaving the P.U.S. become associates, subscription 2s. 6d. annually, until they become full members at seventeen.

The Reading Course alone which Miss Mason gives us each term ought especially to appeal to girls just leaving school. Then there is the P.U.S. magazine. The first number now on sale at the Office (1s. 1d. post free). This is a magazine run by the P.U.S.A. for both past and present members of the school. Much work and expense has been entailed in re-starting a school magazine, a good sale is essential for its success. No one can help in this so much as ex-students, in their posts—they alone can interest the parents in the magazine.

We still have several copies left, will you all order a copy for your pupils? And please encourage your pupils (past and present) to send articles to the Editor, Miss Pott.

We feel that ex-students should be able to help more than anyone else in making the association known amongst old P.U.S. members. I will gladly send particulars to anyone.

Please remember the P.U.S.A. for your old pupils and the magazine for both young and old.

PHYLLIS N. BOWSER, Hon. Sec.

ANDORRA.

Twelve hundred years ago peasants of Catalonia, fleeing from the Moorish invasion of Spain, founded settlements among the Pyrenees, and of these Andorra alone has remained autonomous. It lies in the Eastern Pyrenees, between France and Spain and comprises an area of 175 square miles, consisting of three confluent valleys, 6,000—10,000 feet above sea level, surrounded by a mountain rampart which rises 4—6,000 feet above the valleys, and has a population under 6,000 distributed among 44 villages and hamlets. The territory is a semi-independent, protected republic under the joint suzerainty of the Bishop of Seo de Urgel in Spain and the French Government, and is said to be the oldest republic, the highest, poorest and least populated state in the world as it is surely one of the most beautiful. Legend connects its foundations with Charlemagne and his son Louis le Debonnaire while authentic history traces it at least to 819 A.D. The name is derived by different authorities either from the Moorish word for a "land thick with trees" (a description which has lost much of its fitness) or from the Biblical Endor in honour of a victory over the Moors gained by Louis le Debonnaire in 777 A.D. If the battle was actually fought here it would seem to be the last on Andorran soil, for these peaceable people, unburdened by foreign diplomatic relations, have remained unaffected by the world's turmoil since, including the world war. By the "Acte of Paréage" in 1278 the quarrels (which also involved lands richer than Andorra) between Foix and Urgel were concluded and the position of Andorra defined. The rights of Foix passed by inheritance to Béarn and finally to Henry IV and thence to the French Government, while those of Spain are still exercised by the bishop of Urgel.

Although proudly loyal to her feudal chiefs (to whom she pays a small biennial tribute) Andorra values above all things her neutrality and her independence, and when her overlords have attempted to go beyond their powers and to impose laws, she has refused to obey. She has insisted with equal success the subtler danger of attempts to make the republic a gambling centre, such as brought a dishonourable prosperity to Monaco. One wonders what will be the effect of the new Trans-Pyrenean railway in process of construction, or of the Bishop's road from Urgel to the capital, Andorra La Viella, completed eight years ago, which has at last brought wheeled traffic within her boundary, although there are still only mule tracks through the greater part of the State and across the frontier into France.

It was by this road that a friend and I travelled late last May. We had spent a night at Seo after seven hours' motor-bus ride from Ribas (75 miles from Barcelona and the present terminus of the railway) and left Seo de Urgel early in the morning by the public "tartane." This is a light, two-wheeled wooden cart

with a rounded linen cover, drawn by two mules, tandem. Our four packages were tied to the corners of the cart and fortunately none of our peasant companions had any luggage. At the Andorran frontier a Spanish soldier patted our suit cases and gave us his blessing, but there are no custom duties into Andorra which, translated, means no tips to pay—that is required only when one returns to Spain!

We drove along the southern and widest of the three valleys, by the foaming Gran Valira river which is a tributary of the Segre. The road ended at the capital, a village of 600 inhabitants, and we were met and conducted past fields of narcissus, pasture land and corn fields to the excellent inn at Las Escaldas kept by Mons. and Mdme. Paulet, where we were made welcome indeed.

The inn was spotlessly clean and had baths supplied by the hot sulphur springs of which there are several at Las Escaldas. These waters are said to be good for "douleurs" and we certainly found them refreshing to our sore and blistered feet after a day's tramp over the stoney paths, for, alas! we were both "tender foot!" But how little these troubles matter in retrospect! The fare was princely and towards the end of a long meal Mons. and Mdme. Paulet would sit down and talk to us in fluent southern French about Andorra and her ways. We were the only guests at the inn and the only tourists in the country—perhaps the only foreigners except a few gypsies.

The inn lies just south of the fork of the Y where the Valira del Norte and the Valira del Orion, after passing through narrow gorges, flow into the Gran Valira. These mountain torrents are joined by many foaming streamlets and waterfalls which race down the mountain sides. The main paths follow the three rivers and we walked some distance along each of them, but there were many tempting by-paths which perhaps we may one day return and explore with a donkey and a tent. The surface of the country is hilly, although the bordering snow-capped mountains tower above the rest, and you may imagine the varied play of light and shade this gives, while in May the profusion of flowers and especially the fields of narcissus were a joy.

It would take too long to describe our various walks and all that we saw of beauty and interest, but I will mention a few outstanding points. One thinks often, for instance, of the beautiful meadow where we counted 58 varieties in flower, including narcissus and madonna lilies in profusion, white heleborine, twayblade, spotted and scented orchids, astrantia, blue columbines, kingcups, globe flowers, cowslips, mountain primroses, greater butterwort, and much besides. The little chapel on the mountain overlooking Andorra La Viella, Las Escaldas and the green mountains and valleys around (the old monks knew where to build!) The many old churches and way-

side shrines of this nation which regards the Virgin as the "Princess of the valleys of Andorra." The blue lake or "étang", which lies on a level plateau studded with small blue gentians and wild azaleas about halfway up a steep mountain. The field overlooking the wide southern valley, bordered with grey rocks and wild purple irises, where we sat when the morning was hot: the wild pinks on the rocks: the salamander in the rain: the wide "cirques" surrounded by mountains: the place where we first ate "bread dipped in the river" (delicious when the water is aerated!): the hermitage of St. Antony built against the rock. All these and much besides we saw and enjoyed and they are connected in our minds with various little incidents of human interest. Then there was the forge at Canillo where we sheltered during a thunderstorm, while the village gathered round and the young French schoolmistress was fetched to converse with us. Catalan is the native language but a large proportion speak French also, and the French Government trains and pays teachers of French and offers a few scholarships for higher education in France. The children can attend either the French schools or the Catalan ones supported by the Andorran Government. Education is free, though not compulsory, and most boys and girls of the present generation go to school.

We liked the Andorran hamlets with their small village square, wrought iron cross, church, cluster of limestone slate-roofed houses, not over-clean, huddled together near a stream. The windows have no glass and are closed by solid wooden shutters. Every house has one or more balcony with wooden or wrought iron rails—indeed these iron balconies seemed to be the only art and the only luxury of the country. I must mention, also, our delightful visit to Ordino where we watched dancing on Ascension day and were shown round the house of a distinguished Andorran family who were staying in Barcelona, and our walk back along the gorge after dark guided only by the glow-worms on the rocks, the stones on the path and the reflection of the stars on the water.

One day Mdme. Paulet took us over the little cottage factory behind the house where they prepared, bleached and dyed the wool of the native sheep (with French dyes) and wove it into rugs. It was all done in a most leisurely way, partly by hand and partly by simple water driven machinery. On our last morning the Paulet's little niece took us over a tobacco factory. It was quite a large affair, very clean and as leisurely as everything else in this country. We saw the various processes and packets of 50 kilos with shoulder-straps, ready to be carried over the frontier to France.

May 27th, the day we left, Mons. Paulet brought our luggage on a donkey to Andorra La Viella and then took us to call on the President of the Republic who lived quite simply in his own house—there is no official residence—but who was unfortunately

unwell and therefore unable to receive us. Mons. Paulet then showed us over the "House of the Valley" a small, ancient, stone building with a turret, which stands on an eminence and which serves for Parliament House, tribunal, Parochial school, and temporary state prison (convicted prisoners serve their sentence in France) as well as lodging and feeding the deputies and their horses while the councils are held.

The Andorran government is an interesting combination of feudalism, a patriarchal system and a communist republic, but it would take too much space to give more than an outline. The suzerains, France and the Bishop of Urgel, each appoint a viguier (the former French and the latter Andorran) to represent them, and these administer justice with the assistance of Andorran assessors to see that decisions are in accordance with the traditions and precedents of the country, for neither France nor Spain can initiate laws, though they have a slight power of veto. There is right of appeal to higher courts. Andorra has no written laws, no public debt, no standing army, no regular police, no newspapers. All able bodied citizens may be called upon for police duties when required and serve under captains and lieutenants elected by the parishes with the acting viguier as head. However crime is very rare.

The State is divided into six parishes—Canillo, Enchamp, Ordino, Massana, Andorra, San Julio (I give the names because I like their sound)—each administered by twelve elected councillors and further subdivided. The franchise is possessed by all men over 25 who are heads of households. They vote 'viva voce,' usually in assembly, and elect the president and vice-president, the General Council of 24 members, 4 from each parish, the parish councillors, captains and various other officials. Candidates for election to the General Council must be over 30, the head of a family, engaged in a remunerative occupation other than domestic service, temperate and free from physical infirmity and no one under 60 may refuse to serve if elected. Government officials are all unpaid.

There is much more I might write about Andorra if space would allow, but I have simply tried to give an impressionistic sketch of the beautiful little mountain State with its sturdy, quiet peasant population, towards which our visit gave us very friendly feelings. The account is quite long enough—probably too long—but my mind is simply teeming with the things I have *not* said!

M. E. FRANKLIN.

WANTED.—Miss Wix would be most grateful to anyone who would send her first hand particulars of places in Brittany, Normandy, or along the Loire, suitable for a short holiday for a small family party—somewhere pretty and yet comfortable and uncrowded, and a good centre for excursions. Please write to her direct at 20, Portland Road, Leicester.